

REMARKS

Pursuant to this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 1, 4, 5, 11, and 17 have been amended. This Preliminary Amendment does not add new matter.

Applicants respectfully request an early and favorable examination of the above-identified patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

BY 

Robert M. Barrett
Reg. No. 30,142
P.O. Box 1135
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135
Phone: (312) 807-4204

Dated: April 14, 2004